

Defendants Face Prison Time for Robbery, Drug, and Weapons Charges

A 26-year-old Wilmington man faces at least 20 years in prison after pleading guilty to two robberies from earlier this year. Deputy Attorneys General Jamie McCloskey and Kelly Sheridan secured the plea from Darius Johns to Robbery Second Degree, Robbery First Degree, Possession of a Firearm by a Person Prohibited, and Conspiracy Second Degree. In March 2017, Johns robbed the El Nevado Mexican Grocery Store at the intersection of North Broad and Anderson Streets in Middletown, taking almost \$3,500 from a cash register. Just over a week later, armed with a shotgun, Johns robbed the Extasis Spa Beauty Salon in the 2100 block of West Newport Pike. Johns faces a minimum mandatory 20 years in prison when sentenced by a Superior Court judge in December.

A Superior Court jury returned guilty verdicts for two people involved in a large drug distribution network in Sussex County. Deputy Attorney General Haley King secured the verdicts for Brandon Ways, 28, of Smyrna and Angeline Metelus, 22, of Bridgeville. In November 2016, Ways and Metelus were arrested after a lengthy investigation led by the Delaware State Police Sussex Drug Unit with assistance from numerous agencies, including the Seaford Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration. The investigation led to the seizure of over 78,000 bags of heroin. Both Ways and Metelus were convicted of Tier 5 Possession of Heroin, Tier 4 Drug Dealing, and Conspiracy Second Degree. The Delaware Division of Forensic Science assisted with the case. A Superior Court judge will sentence the pair in December.

Deputy Attorney General Barzilai Axelrod secured a guilty plea from a Wilmington man in connection with a convenience store

robbery and for being involved in a shooting incident. Anthony Stanley, 20, pled guilty to Reckless Endangering First Degree, Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, 2 counts of Conspiracy Second Degree, Attempt Robbery Second Degree, and Robbery Second Degree. In July 2016, Stanley was part of a group of people who jumped the counter and stole cigarettes from the Wawa in the Beaver Brook Plaza in New Castle. In September 2016, Stanley was the driver of a car in which 17-year-old Walike Parham, pulled a gun out and repeatedly fired at a car traveling on Pulaski Highway near the Sparrow Run development. Several bullets hit the targeted car, but no one inside the vehicle was hit. Parham pled guilty and was sentenced as an adult by a Superior Court judge in July 2017 to 4 years in prison, followed by 6 months of home confinement, then 1 year of probation. Stanley now faces 3 to 44 years in prison when sentenced in January 2018.